

St. George Orthodox Church

5191 Lennon Road • Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 732-0720

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

August 9, 2020

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/AFTER-FEAST OF OUR LORD'S TRANSFIGURATION **التجلي**

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open with a limited number of parishioners each week. Only those who are scheduled may attend. If you are not on the list and would like to be part of the rotation, please contact Fr. Joe (810-732-0720 or njja@aol.com). View our livestream at:

YouTube ~ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpLWfxMIJK4uQOV41ekE6Wg>

If you have a smart TV, you actually have a web browser and YouTube app built in. All you have to do is start the browser app for YouTube and put the link in the address bar.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** *{the Golden-Mouth}*,
The **Special Hymns** we sing are on the Bilingual sheets from Fr. Joe's Email.

Holy Bread Offerings

- Cam Takach for the health of her family and in loving memory of **Alex Mathews** (40 day, nephew).
- Najwa Joubran and Family for the health of her family especially all members of the **Elias, Hanna, Joubran, and Khoshaba Families** and in loving memory of mother **Badia Khoury** (10 year).

Baptism/Chrismation Days

The Church School offers the Holy Bread for their teachers and/or students who celebrated their *New Birth* {Baptism and/or Chrismation} into the Church this week:

- **Mila Mitri** – August 10th
- **Zane Farah** – August 12th

May our children be children of the Light and heirs of eternal good things. {Baptismal Service}

- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Archdeacon David Nimer** (+August 5th, relative of the Farah Family), **Michael Simpson** (+July 9th, Kelly Sanderson's uncle), **Enrique Rojas** (+July 13th, former parishioner), **William Stock** (+July 20th, grandfather of Natania Hanna).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Metropolitan Paul** and **Archbishop John** who are in captivity, **Sahar Abdallah**, **Asma Abuaita** (sister of Janett), **Reader Fouad Abuaita**, **Anwar Abueita**, **Wadia Albaba**, **Nabil Andoni** (brother of Vera Daoud), **Kendall Ayoub** (brother of Cam Takach), **Naila Banna**, **Emil J. Bathish**, **Levi Cooper**, **Vera Daoud**, **Jimmy David**, **Vera Farah**, **Averie Fisher** (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam Ghanim** (Manal's mother), **Elias Gantos**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol Haddad**, **Shawna Hale**, **Donald Hawkins**, **Daisy Isaac**, **Nawal and Nimer Iseid**, **Michael Khal**, **Nakhleh Khoury**, **Nicola Khoury**, **George Nassif**, **Aida Raffoul**, **Deborah Salim**, **Nicholas Saseen**, **Michael Silpoch**, **William Sophia Jr.**, and **Lois Teunion**.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Juliana** (Essa) AbuAita and **Katie** (Philip) Quackenboss [daughter of Bill and Sue Shaheen].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DORMITION (ASSUMPTION OR FALLING ASLEEP) OF THE THEOTOKOS We will have a Pan-Orthodox celebration with our brothers and sisters at Assumption Church for their Patronal and Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos beginning with **Great Vespers and the Blessing of the Five Loaves, Wheat, Wine, and Oil (Artoklasia)** on Friday, August 14th at 6pm. We will end the celebration with **Divine Liturgy** at 10am on Saturday, August 15th. The services will be live-streamed at the Assumption Orthodox Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AssumptionGrandBlanc/>

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, AND DONATIONS Though everyone cannot attend church due to limited capacity or other reasons, our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still needed. PLEASE help our parish by continuing to send your offerings to St. George. This can simply be done by going to our website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) or by mailing your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507.

PARKING LOT PLEDGES Our goal is \$80,000 (we have raised over \$41,000 so far including half of the Valentine Gala profits) and we are so thankful for those who have donated and pledged. If you have not already, please pick up a form, fill it out, and send it to the church. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings. Again, thank you to our donors!

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud
Dn. Mike and Pam Bassett
St. George Preschool
Jamal and Manal Abuaita
Khader and Lucy Abuaita
Anwar and Janet Abueita

Laila Abud
Anonymous
Ladies Auxiliary
Tony Daoud
Ayman and Wafaa Elias
John and Theresa Farah

Betty Froberg
Dr. David and May Gantos
George and Jeanette Nassif
Bill and Sue Shaheen
Richard Shaheen
Bob and Lois Teunion

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i>) is observed on Wednesday and Friday. The Dormition Fast for the Dormition (Falling Asleep or Assumption) of the Virgin Mary began on Saturday, August 1 st and lasts until the feast on August 15 th . The traditional fasting discipline during this fourteen-day period is <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products, except on Saturdays and Sundays</i> when <i>wine and olive oil</i> are allowed.
Tuesday	Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm
Wednesday	SOYO Wednesday Zoom Gathering (<i>time to be announced</i>)
Thursday	Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm
Friday	Combined Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers for the Falling Asleep (Dormition or Assumption) of the Theotokos at <i>Assumption in Grand Blanc</i> (live-stream is at their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/AssumptionGrandBlanc/ 6pm
Saturday	Dormition of the Virgin Mary Divine Liturgy at <i>Assumption</i> 10am Great Vespers 5pm

HELP, WE NEED SOMEBODY! HELP, NOT JUST ANYBODY!

We are sorely in need of weeding and clean-up! Anyone looking for an outdoor activity? **Please help!** The past few years, we hired a gardener to keep up things, but we could not this year! Share your time and talent with your church. Please contact Kh. Leslee Abud (laabud@aol.com) if you can help.



GRIEF & LOSS
Support Group

At Catholic Charities, we understand grief and loss is difficult. We hope you will find healing, support, hope, strength, and understanding interacting with others who have had similar experiences.

OPEN TO EVERYONE
THURSDAYS
5 PM - 6 PM
FREE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
901 CHIPPEWA STREET

Contact Linda Itson to reserve your spot.
810-232-9950 ext. 250

www.CatholicCharitiesFlint.org

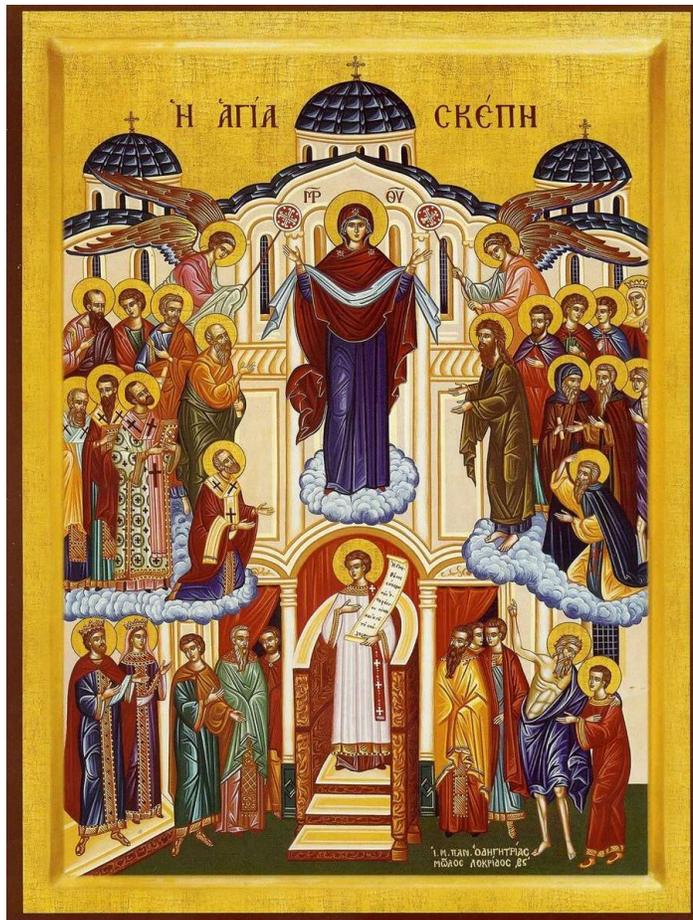
Venerating the Holy Virgin ~ *Earliest known prayer to the Virgin Mary*
by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

As far as we know, the earliest known prayer to the Virgin Mary is known as "*Beneath thy compassion*" (in Greek: Ὑπὸ τὴν σὴν εὐσπλαγχνίαν). The earliest text of this hymn was found in a Christmas liturgy of the third century. It is written in Greek and dates to approximately 250 A.D.

In 1917, the John Rylands Library in Manchester acquired a large panel of Egyptian papyrus including the 18 cm by 9.4 cm fragment containing the text of this prayer in Greek.

C.H. Roberts published this document in 1938. His colleague E. Lobel, with whom he collaborated in editing the Oxyrhynchus papyri, basing his arguments on paleographic analysis, argued that the text could not possibly be older than the third century, and most probably was written between 250 and 280. This hymn thus precedes the “Hail Mary” in Christian prayer by several centuries.

The prayer reads: *“Under your mercy we take refuge, Mother of God! Our prayers, do not despise in necessities, but from the danger deliver us, only pure, only blessed.”*



Icon of the Protection of the Mother of God (celebrated on October 1st)

The sad idea held by our Protestant friends, that the veneration of the Holy Virgin is of late, pagan introduction, is simply not true. Christians have been invoking the prayers of the Mother of God from the time of the Ancient Church, and continue to this day. Yet more proof that we get into doctrinal and liturgical trouble when we think we can interpret the Bible on our own. The Holy Spirit is not the author of confusion, and the Church has

survived 2,000 years because she is conciliar in nature, teaching only that which has always been taught, everywhere and at all times.

The Church even worships in the same manner, with her divine services having roots in the worship that took place in the Temple in Jerusalem and born out of the synagogues and hidden places of the earliest Christian worship of the first century.

In an age when we do not even remember our own American past, is it any wonder so many do not know the history, the worship, and the dogma of the Ancient Christian Faith? When we live in an age where the attention span is hardly past a ten-minute lecture, is it any wonder so many of our neighborhood churches are constantly reinventing their form of worship in a desperate attempt at remaining relevant?

Not a day goes by that I do not give thanks to God for having revealed His Church to me. I am grateful I am growing old in a Church, which is actually older than I am, and whose traditions, teachings, and way of life, will live far beyond myself.



**Icon of the Virgin Mary painted by
St. Luke the Apostle of the Seventy and Evangelist**

As we pray at the end of **Great Vespers**, in the **Paraklesis** (during the Dormition Fast), and in the **Akathist to the Virgin Mary** (sung during the Great Fast).

By your prayers ...

Most holy Theotokos (Greek for birth-giver) of God, save us

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

August 4, 2020

Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, Esteemed Members of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees, Organizations and Department Heads, Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings to you and your families as we progress in this holy fast dedicated to the Mother of God, the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. I pray that you and your families are safe and well as we continue to deal with the pandemic that is plaguing our respective countries.

It is with a sense of shock and awe that I learned of the horrific explosion in Beirut. I immediately called the Archdiocese of Beirut to check on His Eminence Metropolitan Elias and the clergy and faithful of the archdiocese, as well as our churches in Beirut. Thanks be to God; His Eminence was not harmed, and the clergy are all safe. The same, however, cannot be said for the archdiocese headquarters, the churches and our St. George Hospital. Many of our churches and institutions in Beirut suffered devastating damage as well as the homes of many of the clergy and faithful.

Not only are these people our brothers and sisters in Christ, but for many of us they are family and friends of the faithful of our archdiocese. As such, we are making an immediate appeal to all of you to do whatever you are able during this economically difficult time and spare whatever penny you can, keeping in mind the parable of the widow in the Gospel, “And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.” (Luke 21: 1-4). Please give to your local parish and your parish will forward the money to the archdiocese in a timely manner. You may also give directly to the archdiocese and mark your check “Beirut” or give online using the following link:

<https://antiochian.networkforgood.com/projects/106179-financial-aid-following-beirut-explosion>

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

During this time of distress, we appeal to the Mother of God as we sing the Paraklesis service, crying out from the depths of our hearts and souls, “Preserve and save, O Theotokos, thy servants from every danger. After God, do all of us for refuge flee unto thee; a firm rampart art thou and our protection.” As we continue to pray for those suffering and those who have reposed from COVID-19 in our own archdiocese, please remember the victims of this tragic explosion in Lebanon and all those throughout the world who are suffering and in need of our prayers.

Wishing you all a blessed remainder of the Holy Dormition Fast, I remain,

Yours in the service of Christ,

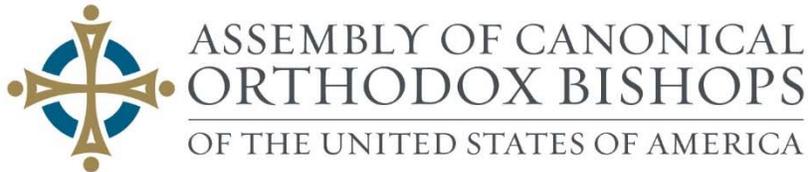
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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Office of the Chairman

Statement of the Chairman of the Assembly of Bishops
On the Tragic Explosions in Beirut, Lebanon

August 6, 2020

To the Faithful Orthodox Christians of the United States of America and all people of good will:

We express our deep sorrow at the devastation created by the explosions in Beirut. We mourn for the people of Lebanon, who now face an additional challenge in this time of great crisis.

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), the official humanitarian Agency of the Assembly of Bishops, is helping alleviate the heartbreaking impact of this tragedy. After conducting rapid needs assessments, IOCC released \$150,000 in emergency funding. In addition, funds for current Lebanon programs are being adjusted, in conversation with donors, to help address the new crisis. Assistance will include hygiene parcels, the expansion of community kitchens, and assessments for building rehabilitation. Given the continuing danger posed by the COVID-19 pandemic all activities will include measures to help prevent the further spread of the virus.

In seeking to live Christ's Gospel by loving and caring for our fellow human beings in great need, we are called to respond to the needs of those who now face great loss. We mourn with those who mourn and walk together with those suffering and in need.

During the fast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God, we call out to the Theotokos for guidance and ask for intercession on behalf of all those whom this tragedy has touched.

May God bless, comfort, and strengthen you all.

† Archbishop ELPIDOPHOROS of America